Investment in Mumbai High oilfields

401. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has any plan to re-develop its prime Mumbai High Oil fields to arrest production decline from the ageing fields;

(b) if so, the quantum of investment proposed to be made for the purpose; and

(c) the quantum of additional oil expected on account of the investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J PATEL): (a) To arrest the oil production decline in Mumbai High field, major initiatives in the form of redevelopment programme were being launched by Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) in 2000-01. These projects are redevelopment projects of Mumbai High North (MHN) and Mumbai High South (MHS). The inputs envisaged under these projects have been completed by April 2007. The implementation of these projects has successfully arrested the production decline from Mumbai High field.

A project for Additional development of A1 Layer of L-III reservoir of Mumbai High North is currently under implementation and will be completed during 2007-08.

In order to maintain the high level of production and further improve the oil recovery from Mumbai High field, the feasibility study for next phase of re-development program is being carried out by ONGC.

(b) and (c) The quantum of investment proposed to be made for next phase of redevelopment programme and the quantum of additional oil expected would depend on feasibility study.

India-Pakistan-Iran gas pipeline agreement

†402. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether gas pipeline agreement has been finalized among India, Pakistan and Iran;

(b) if not, the hurdles being faced in finalizing this agreement;

(c) the efforts being made to solve the problems being faced in finalizing this agreements; and

(d) by when the country is likely to get gas after finalizing of this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests as also to avoid any future problems in the successful operation of the project.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.